Internet is a conglomeration of networks having presence in over two hundred countries. It is difficult for any single Government agency to exercise control over it. The solution lies mainly with content/service providers in deploying firewall or security audit system. Penalities and punishment have been provided in the IT Bill which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16-12-1999. This legislation when enacted would act as a deterrent to the activities of the hackers.

(c) No such information is available.

(d) IT and internet security are evolving areas world-wide and India is gearing itself to counter such threats.

Cyber Crime

2987. Dr. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scope of cyber crime in India is huge; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to wipe out the tremendous threat to the financial and the defence sectors in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) Cyber crime in India is likely to be in line with such crimes elsewhere in the world. With the increasing use of Internet, technical preventive measures and practices, are continously being developed to counter such crimes. The IT Bill introduced in the Parliament, inter-alia, provides for penalty and compensation to prevent computer misuses and computer crime. A comprehensive set of security instructions have been issued to minimise the threat in the defence sector.

Amendment of Child Labour Act

2988. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to amend the Child Labour (Regulation and Prohibition) Act in near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the proposed amendment, inter alia, include that the offence be made a cognizable one, penalties be made more stringent and deterrent and the onus of proof of age of a child be on the employer.

Protection for the Rights of Labour in SEZ

2989. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN :

SHRI GAYA SINGH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is no protection for the rights of labour in Special Economic Zones (SEZs);

(b) if so, whether Government have decided to create more such special economic zones under the new Export-Import Policy for 2000-2001; and

(c) whether Government will take necessary measures to see that the rights of the labour are protected in these zones ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) In the Export and Import Policy (1997—2002) incorporating amendments made upto 31/3/2000, the Government has announced the Policy for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) in the country with a view to provide an internationally competitive duty free environment for exports with minimum procedural requirement. The units in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) will have to be a net foreign exchange earner but they shall not be subject to any pre-determined value addition or minimum export performance.

As far as labour matter is concerned, Special Economic Zones will be governed by the laws and rules of the country.

Growing problem of unemployment

2990. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether with economy registering a regular growth of 5 to 6 per cent every year; joblessness has out-stepped all economic growth;